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Brides uses cookies to provide you with a great user experience. Using Brides, you accept our use of cookies. In this section: What is Hepatitis D? Hepatitis D is a viral infection that causes inflammation of the liver and damage. Inflammation of the swelling that occurs when body tissues become injured or infected. Inflammation can damage organs. Viruses invade normal cells in your body. Many viruses cause infections that can spread from person to person. Hepatitis D virus is unusual because it can infect you only when you also have a hepatitis B virus infection. Thus, hepatitis D is a double infection. You can protect yourself from hepatitis D by protecting yourself from hepatitis B by getting a hepatitis B vaccine. Hepatitis D spreads just as hepatitis B spreads, through contact with the blood of an infected person or other bodily fluids. Hepatitis D virus can cause acute or chronic infection, or both. Acute hepatitis D Acute hepatitis D is a short-term infection. Symptoms of acute hepatitis D are the same as those of any type of hepatitis and are often more severe.<sup>19</sup> Sometimes your body is able to fight the infection and the virus goes away. Chronic Hepatitis D Chronic Hepatitis D is a long-term infection. Chronic hepatitis D occurs when your body is unable to fight the virus and the virus does not go away. People who have chronic hepatitis B and D develop complications more often and faster than people who have chronic hepatitis B alone.<sup>20</sup> How do hepatitis D and hepatitis B infections occur together? Hepatitis D and hepatitis B infections can occur together, like a coin or a superinfection. People can only get hepatitis D when they also have hepatitis B. Coin infection occurs when you get both hepatitis D and hepatitis B infections at the same time. Coin infections usually cause acute or short-term infections of hepatitis D and B. Monetafection can cause severe acute hepatitis. In most cases, people can recover from and fight acute hepatitis D and B infections. However, less than 5 percent of people with coins both infections become chronic and do not go away.<sup>21</sup> Superinfection Superinfection occurs if you already have chronic hepatitis B and then get hepatitis D. When you get superinfections, you may have severe acute hepatitis symptoms.<sup>19</sup> Up to 90 percent of people with superinfection are unable to fight hepatitis D virus, and develop chronic hepatitis D.<sup>20</sup> As a result these people will have both chronic hepatitis D and chronic hepatitis B. How common is hepatitis D? Hepatitis D is not common in the United States. Hepatitis D is more common in other parts of the world, including Eastern and southern Europe; Mediterranean region and Middle East; Parts of Asia, including Mongolia; Central Africa; and the Amazon Basin in America.<sup>22,23</sup> Who is most likely D? Hepatitis D infection occurs only in people with hepatitis B. People are more likely to have hepatitis D in addition to hepatitis B if they have complications of acute hepatitis D? In rare cases, acute hepatitis D can lead to acute liver failure, a condition in which the liver fails suddenly. Although acute liver failure is rare, hepatitis D and B infections are more likely to lead to acute hepatic insufficiency than hepatitis B infection.<sup>24</sup> What are the complications of chronic hepatitis D? Chronic hepatitis D can lead to cirrhosis of the liver, liver failure and liver cancer. People who have chronic hepatitis B and D are more likely to develop these complications than people who have chronic hepatitis B alone.<sup>20</sup> Early diagnosis and treatment of chronic hepatitis B and D may reduce your chances of developing serious health problems. Cirrhosis of the liver is a condition in which the liver slowly collapses and is unable to function normally. Scar tissue replaces healthy liver tissue, partially blocking blood flow through the liver. In the early stages of cirrhosis, the liver continues to work. As cirrhosis worsens, the liver begins to fail. Liver failure is also called end-stage liver disease, liver failure progresses within months or years. In late-stage liver diseases, the liver can no longer perform important functions or replace damaged cells. Liver Cancer Having Chronic Hepatitis B and Chronic Hepatitis D increases your chances of developing liver cancer. Your doctor may offer blood tests and ultrasound or another type of imaging test to check for liver cancer. Finding cancer at an early stage increases the likelihood of cancer treatment. What are the symptoms of hepatitis D? Most people with acute hepatitis D have symptoms that may include feeling tired nausea and vomiting bad appetite pain over the liver, in the upper abdomen darkening of the color of the urine lightening the color of the stool is a yellowish shade for white eyes and skin, called jaundice In contrast, most people with chronic hepatitis D have little symptoms until complications develop, which can be several years after that how they were infected. Some symptoms of cirrhosis of the liver include weakness and a feeling of fatigue swelling of the abdominal weight swelling of the ankle, called swelling of the skin jaundice that causes hepatitis D? Hepatitis D virus causes hepatitis D. Hepatitis D virus is spread by contact with the blood of an infected person or other bodily fluids. Contact can occur by exchanging needle drugs or other drug materials with an infected person having unprotected sex with an infected person getting a random stick with a needle that has been used on an infected person by the hepatitis D virus rarely spreads from mother to child during childbirth. You can't get hepatitis D from coughing or sneezing on human drinking water or eating food to hug an infected person shaking hands or holding hands with an infected person sharing spoons, forks, and and and Have dishes sitting next to an infected person How do doctors diagnose hepatitis D? Doctors diagnose hepatitis D based on your medical history, physical examination and blood tests. If you have hepatitis D, your doctor may perform tests to check your liver. Your doctor's medical history will ask about your symptoms and about the factors that may make you more likely to get hepatitis D. Physical examination During a physical examination, your doctor will check for signs of liver damage, such as changes in skin color swelling in the lower legs, legs or ankle tenderness or tumor in the abdomen What tests doctors use to diagnose hepatitis D? Doctors use blood tests to diagnose hepatitis D. Your doctor can order tests to check for liver damage, find out how much liver damage you have, or rule out other causes of liver disease. Your doctor may order one or more blood tests to diagnose hepatitis D. A medical professional will take a blood sample from you and send a sample to the laboratory. Your doctor may order one or more blood tests to diagnose hepatitis D. Additional tests If you have chronic hepatitis D and hepatitis B, you may have liver damage. Your doctor may recommend tests to find out whether you have liver damage or how much liver damage you have, or rule out other causes of liver disease. These tests may include blood tests. elastography, a special ultrasound that measures the stiffness of the liver. a liver biopsy in which the doctor uses a needle to take a small piece of tissue from the liver. A pathologist will examine tissues under a microscope to look for signs of damage or disease. Doctors usually use a liver biopsy only if other tests do not provide enough information about liver damage or disease. Talk to your doctor about which tests are best for you. How do doctors treat hepatitis D? Doctors can treat chronic hepatitis D with drugs called interferon, such as

peginterferon alpha-2a (Pegasis). Researchers are exploring new treatments for hepatitis D. In addition, hepatitis B medications may be required. How do doctors treat complications of hepatitis D? If chronic hepatitis D leads to cirrhosis of the liver, you should see a doctor who specializes in liver disease. Doctors can treat health problems associated with cirrhosis with medications, surgery and other medical procedures. If you have cirrhosis of the liver, you are more likely to develop liver cancer. Your doctor may order an ultrasound or other type of imaging test to test for liver cancer. If acute hepatitis D leads to acute liver failure, or if chronic hepatitis D leads to liver failure or liver cancer, you may need a liver transplant. How can I protect myself from hepatitis infection If you do not have hepatitis B, you can prevent hepatitis D infection by taking steps to prevent hepatitis B infection, such as getting a hepatitis B vaccine. B, you can take steps to prevent hepatitis D infection by not sharing needle drugs or other medicinal materials to wear gloves if you have to touch another person's blood or open sores by not sharing personal items such as toothbrushes, razors, or nail scissors How can I prevent the spread of hepatitis D to others? If you have hepatitis D, follow above to avoid the spread of infection. Your sexual partners must take a hepatitis B test and, if they are not infected, receive a hepatitis B vaccine. Hepatitis B prevention will also prevent hepatitis D. You can protect others from infection by telling your doctor, dentist and other health care providers that you have hepatitis D. Do not donate blood or blood products, sperm, organs or tissue. Is hepatitis D vaccine available? There is currently no hepatitis D vaccine available. Hepatitis B vaccine can prevent hepatitis D by preventing hepatitis B. Nutrition, diet and nutrition against hepatitis D If you have hepatitis D, you should eat a balanced, healthy diet. Talk to your doctor about healthy eating. You should also avoid alcohol because it can lead to more liver damage. Links Farchi P, Niro GA. Clinical Features of Hepatitis D. Workshops on Liver Disease. 2012;32(3):228-u2012236. Ahn J., Gish W. Hepatitis D virus: a call for screening. Gastroenterology and hepatology. 2014;10(10):647-u2012686. Roy PK. Hepatitis D. Medscape website. . Updated March 16, 2017. Rizzetto M. Hepatitis D virus: introduction and epidemiology. The prospect of a cold spring harbors in medicine. 2015;5(7):a021576. Hufnagle JH. Hepatitis Type D (Delta). In the Journal of the American Medical Association. 1989;261(9):1321–1325. Negro F., Lock ASF. Pathogenesis, epidemiology, natural history and clinical manifestations of viral hepatitis D infection. . Updated July 20, 2016 Accessed june 5, 2017. 2017.

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